



Dee Alarcón, Superintendent of Schools

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July 31, 2007

David E. Power
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Solano Superior Court
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Re: 2006-2007 Grand Jury Report Entitled:
Solano County Office of Education
Report Date: June 12, 2007

Dear Judge Power:

Following are our responses to your findings and recommendations contained in the Grand Jury Report dated June 12, 2007:

Finding 1: The basic overall Emergency Safety Plans were not consistent.

Response to Finding 1: Respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1: Emergency Safety Plans should be consistent throughout the Solano County Office of Education district schools.

Response to Recommendation 1: All sites have met and the Emergency Safety Plans are now consistent with each site. The recommendation has been implemented.

Finding 2: Some staff were not familiar with their school's Emergency Safety Plan.

Response to Finding 2: Respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 2: All staff must be trained on an ongoing basis.

Response to Recommendation 2: All staff will be made aware of the Emergency Safety Plans through ongoing drills and annual training. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when school resumes.

Board of Education

Geneva Watts, President Mayrene Bates, Vice President Larry Asera Jose V. Briseño Douglas J. Ford John T. Galvan Ray Silva

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Finding 3: Several fire code violations were found, such as blocked access to fire alarm pull stations and fire extinguishers. Some passageways to an exit were obstructed. Some doors to the outside were not marked with an exit sign.

Response to Finding 3: The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 3: Keep the fire alarm pull stations and fire extinguishers easily accessible. All passageways to an exit shall be clear and unobstructed. All doors leading to the outside shall be marked with an exit sign.

Response to Recommendation 3: The recommendation has been implemented. Exit signs have been ordered. Items that blocked passageways have been removed.

Finding 4: Parking rules regarding drop off and pick up of children are not being followed. This is a safety hazard.

Response to Finding 4: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding as most parents follow parking rules and drop off and pick up of children.

Recommendation 4: Have random visits by local police to enforce traffic and parking rules.

Response to Recommendation 4: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Parking rules are reviewed with parents at the beginning of each school year. Campus Monitor and site administrators are enforcing the parking rules and drop off and pick up of children. Individual parents are addressed as needed.

Finding 5: Ensure all bus drivers are trained on the Emergency Safety Plan.

Response to Finding 5: The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 5: Ensure all bus drivers are trained on the Emergency Safety Plan.

Response to Recommendation 5: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. From now on the Emergency Safety Plan and Disaster Review Plan will be addressed at drivers' orientation day with current bus drivers in August 2007. New drivers will be given the information when in training.

Finding 6: Maintenance of older buses is becoming difficult.

Response to Finding 6: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. The CHP Motor Carrier reports our bus fleet maintenance records are satisfactory.

Recommendation 6: Schedule purchases of new vehicles to replace the older buses.

Response to Recommendation 6: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. SCOE will be purchasing a small bus sometime prior the start of the new school year. There is also a purchase plan for busses that will be followed as budget allows.

Please contact me if the Grand Jury has any further questions.

Sincerely,



Dee Alarcón
Superintendent of Schools

DA:nl/sr